[Dr. Viswantham Kanithi]

rivers and rivulets were being harnessed for agricultural purposes in our country. After the advent of science and technology, better and permanent methods have been adopted to improve the quality and quantity of the agricultural produce.

Even though there has been persistent demand for more water for irrigating more areas in the District of Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh for the past so many years, the much needed Vamsadhara irrigation system is yet to become operative. Srikakulam is a backward district of Andhra Pradesh. Though the Chief Executives of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa agreed for the construction of diversion barrage at Neradi as early in 1961, till now, only its left main canal has been taken up and it is in the final stages of the completion. The second phase consisting of the important Reservoir and the right main canal is yet to be cleared and commissioned. The cost of the second phase has gone up from around Rs. 80 crore to Rs. 480 crores in the last 30 years.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to ensure early completion of the project for the construction of diversion barrage at Neradi.

(viii) Need to supply adequate quantities of Kerosene Oil and LPG to Sikkim basing the allocation of there commodities in 1991 Census

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI (Sikkim): There is acute shortage of kerosene oil in the State of Sikkim. This is due to the supply of insufficient quota of kerosene oil to Sikkim. The present quota is based on 1981 census when the population was slightly over three lakhs. This quota too fluctuates. As a result, consumers are experiencing great difficulty. Similarly, LPG is also in short supply. Wood fuel is not sufficient to meet the demand as the State Government is committed to preserve forest and maintain ecological balance. In view of the acute shortage of kerosene oil and LPG, I would request the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas to base the allocation of these commodities on the basis of 1991 census which shows the population of Sikkim well over four lakhs. Also the supply of these commodities needs to be regular. Regular supply of kerosene oil and LPG in adequate quantity in ensuing winter would go a long way to minimise the hardship of the people of Sikkim.

14.32 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

[*English*]

Flood Situation Caused by Recent Cyclonic Strom in Bay of Bengal-*Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up further discussion regarding flood situation caused by the recent cyclonic storm in the Bay of Bengal and relief measures undertaken by the Government.

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, yesterday, I was mentioning that the recent cyclonic storm has caused much damage to the crops of the farmers in Andhra Pradesh. In this connection, I appeal to the Government to waive the agricultural loan given to the farmers. Last time, when this cyclonic storm occurred and it had caused much damage to the crops of the farmers, the Government waived the loan given to the farmers at that time. But it has not been implemented properly because of the pact between the Union Government and the State Government. So, I want that there should be rescheduiement of the loan and instructions should be given to NABARD in this connection; and the share of the State Government should also be minimum.

Since cyclonic storms are recurring in most of the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh, particularly 13 districts including Rayalseema and other backward districts